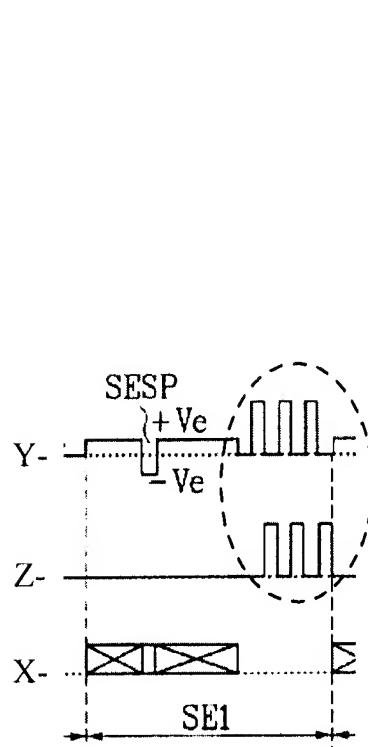


**REMARKS**

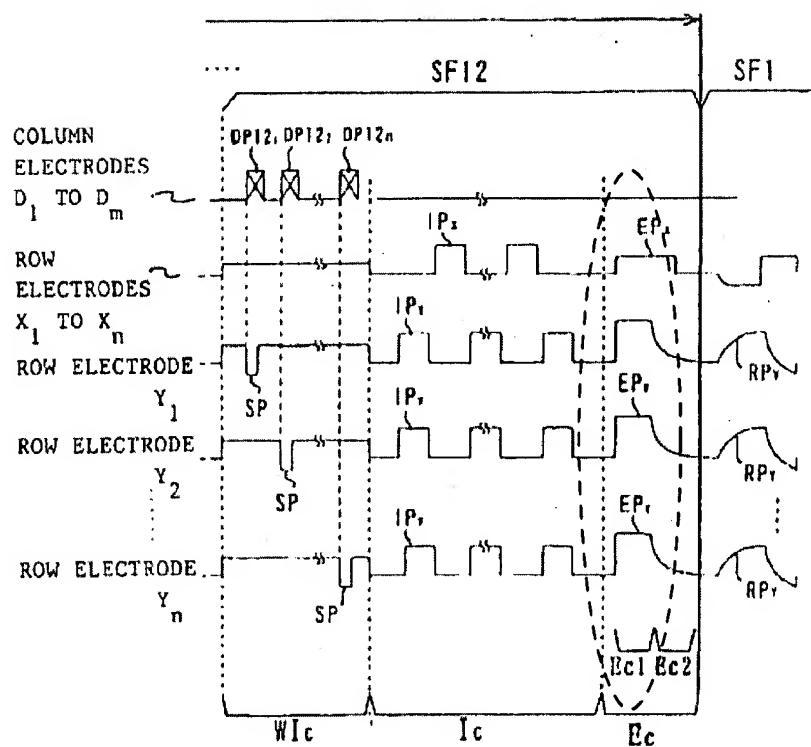
Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,175,194 to Saegusa *et al.* ("Saegusa") in view of U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2003/0006945 to Lim *et al.* ("Lim"). The Examiner alleges that Saegusa discloses a method for driving a display panel as set forth in the claims, but concedes that Saegusa fails to teach a first erasing step for inducing a first erasing discharge between said column electrode and one of the row electrodes of said row electrode pair. The Examiner relies on Lim to allegedly disclose these features.

Lim discloses a selective erase sub-field SE1 as shown in the portion of Fig. 7 reproduced below. In the erase sub-field SE1 of Lim, a discharge occurs between ***one row electrode Y*** of a row electrode pair and ***the other row electrode Z*** of the row electrode pair by ***alternately applying*** positive voltage pulses to both electrode Y and electrode Z, as illustrated in Fig. 7.

On the other hand, as claimed by Applicant in claims 1 and 4, the first erasing step E<sub>c1</sub> illustrated in the portion of Applicant's Fig. 8 reproduced below causes an erasing discharge between the ***one row electrode (X)*** and ***a column electrode (D)*** by applying a first voltage (EP<sub>x</sub>) to the one row electrode (X) and ***applying at the same time*** a second voltage (EP<sub>y</sub>) to the other row electrode (Y). The first voltage and the second voltage have the same polarity. According to the first erasing step of the present claims 1 and 4, discharge does not occur between the one row electrode and the other row electrode.



Lim Fig. 7



Applicant's Fig. 8

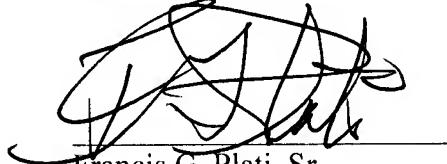
Accordingly, the combination of Saegusa and Lim fails to disclose or suggest at least a first erasing step for inducing a first erasing discharge between said column electrode and one of the row electrodes of said row electrode pair, as recited in the claims. Therefore, claims 1 and 4 are patentable over the combination of Saegusa and Lim. Claims 2, 3 and 5-8, which depend from one of claims 1 and 4, are patentable at lease by virtue of their dependence.

### Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 17, 2007